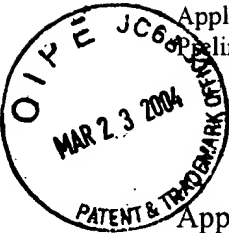


Appl. No. 09/288,836

Prelim. Amdt. Dated March 19, 2004



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#13/C

Application No. : 09/288,836
Applicant : Macy, et al.
Filed : 04/08/1999
TC/A.U. : 2132
Examiner : Benjamin E. Lanier

Confirmation No. 7923

Docket No. : 042390.P7032
Customer No. : 8791

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

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MAR 24 2004

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office action of February 6, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.